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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Masahiro Okada et al.
Confirmation No: 9209
Serial No. : 10/000,427
Filed : November 30, 2001
TC/A.U. : 2131
Examiner :

Docket No. : 01-730
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's continued duty of disclosure, the following documents are brought to the Examiner's attention:

- (1) Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 2000-207199;
- (2) Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 11-085500;
- (3) Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 2000-276350;
- (4) Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication No. 08-016384;

A listing on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed along with a copy of the non-U.S. documents.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the

present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

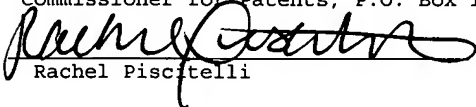
Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Date: April 20, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
"Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on April 20, 2005.


Rachel Piscitelli

Application Number	10/000,427
Filing Date	November 30, 2001
First Named Inventor	Masahiro Okada et al.
Art Unit	2131
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	01-730

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.